

VZCZCXR05950  
PP RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH RUEHTRO  
DE RUEHGO #0230 1120718  
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P 220718Z APR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8882  
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE  
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1907  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 5385  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 8978  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6554  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 4383  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2372  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 000230

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP AND IO; PACOM FOR FPA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/21/2019

TAGS: PGOV PREL PHUM BM

SUBJECT: BURMA: TWO NLD OFFICIALS ARRESTED AFTER LEADING PRAYERS FOR ASSK,S RELEASE

Classified By: Poloff Sean ONeill for Reasons 1.4 (b) & (d)

¶11. (C) NLD spokesman Nyan Win told us that on April 22, authorities arrested two Rangoon-based NLD officials after they led a Buddhist prayer meeting at a local pagoda to call for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners. Security officials arrested Twunay Township NLD vice president U Chit Phay and NLD organizer U Maung Soe Wai at their homes the morning of April 22 after they returned from the hour-long prayer meeting. Nyan Win said the two men were being held at the Twunay Township police station, but noted the police had not released any other information regarding the reason for the arrest or what charges the two men may face.

¶12. (SBU) The two arrested NLD members were leading a prayer group of about 50 people who meet regularly on Tuesdays to pray for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners. In the past, authorities have disrupted similar prayer groups in Rangoon.

DINGER